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JAB-O-METER
TAKE YOUR SHOT
Feb 4 **42,95,142 doses**
Feb 5 **40,57,946doses**
TOTAL DOSES
1,69,40,55,710

KARNATAKA	FEB 4	FEB 5
Fresh cases	1,49,394	1,27,952
Recoveries	2,46,674	2,30,814
Deaths	1,072	1,059

MAHARASHTRA	FEB 4	FEB 5
Fresh cases	14,950	12,009
Recoveries	40,599	25,854
Deaths	53	50

NUMBER OF UNDERTRIALS IN INDIA'S PRISONS INCREASES

Due to high pendency rates in courts, the share of undertrials confined in prison for longer than a year and more has risen

MUCH HIGHER THAN THE WORLD AVERAGE

At least 6 in 10 prisoners in our nation are undertrials, while the average across the world is much less, 2 in 10. According to data from the National Crime Records Bureau, the occupancy rate of prisons in our country is 117.6%, and in states such as Uttar Pradesh and Sikkim, this is as high as 176.5% and 157.3% respectively

FALL IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS

- Meanwhile, the conviction rate in human trafficking cases has been coming down over the past four years, data from the Union Ministry of Home Affairs has revealed recently
- While the conviction rate was 27.8% in 2016, it has gradually dipped over the years and saw a steep fall to 10.6% in 2020

>80,000
UNDERTRIALS IN U.P. (THE MOST POPULOUS STATE), THE HIGHEST IN THE NATION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Centre to repatriate tainted power, agri secys

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

UNION power secretary Alok Kumar and agriculture secretary Sanjay Agarwal may soon be repatriated to their cadre state Uttar Pradesh, where the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has sought sanction to investigate them in a ₹2,268 crore provident fund scam.

Sources said the order for their repatriation may come "any time" as the Union government does not want to face the embarrassment of having its top officers investigated for corruption. The Centre, therefore, wants to shift the action to the state.

The CBI has sought the sanction to probe the two officers in a case relating to illegally investing the provident fund of Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd (UPPCL) employees in a private company, Dewan Housing Finance Ltd (DHFL), which was later accused of siphoning off ₹31,000 crore of bank loans through a web of shell companies. The UPPCL invested a total of ₹4,122 crore in short-term fixed deposit (FD) schemes of DHFL. Out of this, ₹1,854 crore was received on maturation of FDs, but ₹2,268 crore is yet to be recovered.

Alok Kumar

Sanjay Agarwal

Sanjay Agarwal was UPPCL chairman from 2013 to mid-2017, and part of UPPCL employees' PF money was invested in DHFL during this period. The investment in DHFL was in violation of government guidelines that expressly said PF money should not be invested in a financial institution that is not a scheduled bank. Agarwal was succeeded in UPPCL by Alok Kumar, who continued investing in DHFL. Kumar remained at the helm of UPPCL for almost two years.

The case was handed over to the CBI by the Yogi Adityanath government in March 2020. Before that, the matter was investigated by the economic offences wing of the Uttar Pradesh Police. About a dozen people, including former UPPCL managing director A P Mishra and other top officials, have been arrested so far.

Besides Kumar and Agarwal, the CBI has sought sanction from the Uttar Pradesh government to investigate another IAS officer, Aparna U, who is at present serving as secretary in the government. Aparna had also served as MD of UPPCL.

As per recent changes made by the Government of India in the standard operating procedure for investigating public servants, the probe agency is required to first verify that a case is made out against a government servant before seeking sanction for proceeding against him. The CBI is, therefore, convinced these officers are prima facie involved in the PF scam.

Ramanuja is a Guru for all: PM

ENS @ Hyderabad

PRIME Minister **Narendra Modi** on Saturday inaugurated a 216-foot-tall statue of Ramanujacharya in Hyderabad and said the life of the 11th century Sri Vaishnavite saint showed there was no conflict between reforms and our traditions.

Dedicating the 'Statue of Equality' to the world, Modi recalled how Emperumanar, through his Vishishtadvaita philosophy, brought society together and added this was the reason why B R Ambedkar used to tell people to learn from Ramanuja's teachings.

"Ramanujacharya ji is a Guru for all and also a shining inspiration for India's unity and integrity. Born in the South, his influence can be seen on the whole of India, from South to North and East to West," the PM noted. P5

The inauguration ceremony of the 216-foot-tall Statue of Equality, commemorating the 11th century Vaishnavite saint Sri Ramanujacharya, in Hyderabad on Saturday

'Indisposed' KCR skips Modi event

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

TELANGANA Chief Minister **K Chandrashekar Rao**, who is trying to stitch together a new coalition of opposition parties, was conspicuous by his absence at PM Narendra Modi's events in the state capital on Saturday. While sources claimed Rao skipped the programmes because he had fever, political observers believe it was a message to the TRS leader's would-be allies that battle lines are drawn between him and Modi. In fact, the state government had nominated Animal Husbandry Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav two days ago to receive Modi at the airport. P5

Govt makes uniforms must in govt PU colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IN light of the hijab row, the government has officially ordered all students studying at government schools and PU colleges to wear uniforms.

A formal order issued by the Department of Pre-University Education (DPUE) stated that students at government schools and PU colleges will have to mandatorily wear uniforms. Private school students will follow rules as specified by respective management authorities.

The government order cited multiple directions from Bombay, Kerala and Madras high courts and Section 133 of the Karnataka Education Act, 1983 to make uniforms mandatory.

If no code is outlined by private colleges, then the uniform must be such that it maintains equality and unity and does not disrupt public order.

Earlier in the day, Congress leader and MP Rahul Gandhi came out in support of protesting girl students, tweeting, "Don't rob daughters of India of education. Ma Saraswati gives knowledge to all. She doesn't differentiate." P4

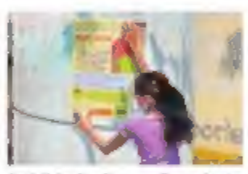
EXPRESS READ

Religious orator Ibrahim Sutar passes away at 81

BENGALURU: Renowned religious orator and Padma Shri awardee Ibrahim Sutar, who was known as Kannada Kabir, died after cardiac arrest in Bagalkot on Saturday. The government has ordered that his last rites will be performed with full state honours. He suffered a heart attack and was rushed to hospital, but could not be saved, sources from his family said. He was 81 and is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters. P5

Make 'father's name' column optional: Kids of former Devadasis

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru



A child of a former Devadasi puts up a poster against the social evil which was banned, but still continues |

THE children of former Devadasis, most of whom are Dalits, are bound together in the common suffering, of not knowing who their father is and the agony of their mother's ignominious livelihood forced upon her in the name of God.

Their questions are existential, but the answers are complex, evasive, and cruel. They either evoke silence and emotional breakdown from their mothers or abuse by society, which brands them as children of prostitutes. The crisis of identity is a huge challenge for children of former Devadasis, who have now turned to the government to help them overcome their dilemma by making the "name of father" column optional in application forms. P5

ONE VILLAGE'S GREEN REVOLUTION P2

WITH THIS ISSUE
INDIA'S MOST POWERFUL COMEDIAN
PLUS @ PAGES MAGAZINE

LITTLE CHAMPS

India won the Under 19 World Cup beating England by 4 wickets. They chased down the target of 190 in 47.4 overs

Make it five

Having won the Championship previously in 1998, 2008, 2012 and 2018, India won their fifth title

Raw's Revival

After losing 7 wickets for just 91 runs, James Rew led England's rescue act with a magnificent 116-ball 95

Raj Angad Bawa took 5/31 in the U-19 World Cup final against England at Sir Vivian Richards stadium in Antigua on Saturday | ICC

India last chased a target in an U-19 World Cup final in 2018 against Australia as Prithvi Shaw led them to glory

Lata Mangeshkar's health worsens

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

LEGENDARY singer Lata Mangeshkar, who was admitted to Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital earlier last month after testing positive for Covid-19, has been put on ventilator again after her condition deteriorated.

Dr Pratit Samdani of Breach Candy Hospital, who has been treating the 92-year-old singer, said she was "currently in ICU and has once again been put on ventilator support as her condition worsened and she will remain under observation". The doctor added that she is under aggressive therapy and that they were continuously observing her.

The singer's team has actively been sharing updates on her health in order to dismiss any rumours. She is being treated for pneumonia as well. Mangeshkar was hospitalised on January 11 after testing positive for Covid but her condition had improved in late January. This had been confirmed by Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope, who had said: "She was on ventilator for some days, but is better now. She is no more on ventilator. Only oxygen is being given and she is responding to the treatment."

25 YEARS SILVER JUBILEE

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI
NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE: 2022

BHARAT RATNA
SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI
(1904-1966)

NOMINATIONS INVITED

Nominations are invited for the **23rd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence : 2022** which honours each year a distinguished Indian, residing either in India or abroad, for his/her sustained individual contributions and outstanding achievements of high professional order and excellence in the field of management, public administration, public affairs, education, institution building, art & culture and sports. The Awardee will be selected by a jury comprising of eminent persons.

The Award is given every year on October 1, the eve of the birth anniversary of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. The honour carries an award of Rs. Five Lakh plus a citation and a plaque and the awardee is designated as Lal Bahadur Shastri fellow.

Nominations may be sent in confidence
Latest by March 31, 2022

Nomination form may be obtained from the Director,
Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management,
Plot No. 11/7, Sector 11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 or can be downloaded from **website :** www.lbsim.ac.in,
Fax: 91-11-25307799,
Tel.: 011-25307700 (100 Lines), **Email:** director@lbsim.ac.in

EARLIER RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD

Dr. Randeep Guleria	2021
Smt. Sudha Murthy	2020
Dr. (Smt.) Manju Sharma	2019
Shri Fali S. Nariman	2018
Shri Bindeshwar Pathak	2017
Dr. Gopal Krishan Gandhi	2016
Dr. Prannoy Roy	2015
Dr. Apathukatha S. Pillai	2014
Dr. R.A. Badwe	2013
Smt. Tessy Thomas	2012
late Prof. Yash Pal	2011
Smt. Aruna Roy	2010
Shri Sunil Bharti Mittal	2009
Dr. E. Sreedharan	2008
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan	2007
Dr. Naresh Trehan	2006
late Dr. C.P. Srivastava	2005
Smt. Ela Ramesh Bhatt	2004
Dr. R.A. Mashelkar	2003
Shri N.R. Narayana Murthy	2002
Shri Sam Pitroda	2001
late Prof. C.K. Prahlad	2000

Chairman, LBSIM, Delhi